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Outcome Themes

BACKGROUND POINTS: President well prepared for meetings.

- Our subject matter was shaped by the facts of this century. For 40 years the actions of the Soviet Union have complicated our hopes for peace and for the growth of freedom.
- Basis for this summit set by five years of firm and consistent policies. Reestablished our political, economic and military strength and reinvigorated our alliances. Thus able to establish dialogue based on realism and strength.

KEY POINT: A good start.

- Meetings very worthwhile. It was essential that the two leaders met. They had an intensive and frank examination of the issues.
- President had called for a fresh start in U.S./Soviet relationship. We have made that start. We needed to understand each other better, and we have started that process.
- Important step forward in our efforts to build basis for more stable and constructive East-West relations. Staying in close touch with friends and allies. President himself briefing NATO leaders, and senior officials branching out to brief others around the world.
- We have established a new and direct high level dialogue. This is centered on more frequent visits and exchanges by Cabinet officials and their counterparts. Will give us framework for intensifying discussions in all four key areas of agenda: regional issues; human rights; bilateral matters; and security and arms control issues.
- But we are realistic. We disagree on much. Point of this dialogue is to lay out these differences frankly. No illusions that dialogue, in and of itself, will resolve our differences, but we will solve problems where we can.
- Systems, values and ideologies are vastly different. Two strong leaders; each made clear where he stands. And both made clear the areas where we distrust each other.
- The leaders recognized that competitive nature of the relationship will continue. But they agreed they share an overriding responsibility: to ensure that this competition remains peaceful, and to work together to try to strengthen an unsure peace.

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- There are, of course, areas of disagreement on how to strengthen the peace, but the two leaders recognized need to start now to establish new ways to address these issues.
- They agreed therefore to meet again and to set up a regular process of summit meetings in our respective capitals. There will also be a regularized process of meetings between Foreign Ministers, and other Cabinet level contacts will be intensified.
- Obviously, there remain areas of deep disagreement and -- in some cases -- distrust.
 - On regional issues, we have conducted our relations with developing countries very differently and have diverging interests in several areas. This was expressed frankly by both leaders.
 - On security and arms control, there was an extensive discussion of our differences over the relationship between strategic offense and defense. This discussion will continue in the Geneva negotiations.
 - On human rights, the President took this opportunity to note that respect for the individual and the rule of law is as fundamental to peace as is arms control. He pressed for greater Soviet adherence to international agreements such as the Helsinki Accords.
- There were, however, additional areas of agreement as well. For example, we were particularly pleased that in the Joint Statement which resulted from the meeting we were able to agree to specific language in a number of arms control areas. These include:
 - Nuclear and Space Talks -- agreed to principle of 50% reductions in nuclear arms and to seek an interim agreement on limiting LRINF missile systems.
 - Non-Proliferation Treaty -- agreed to enhance cooperation.
 - Chemical Weapons -- endorsed concept of CW ban.
 - Risk Reduction Centers -- agreed to study these.

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- MBFR Negotiations -- emphasized their importance.
- CDE (Stockholm Conference) -- reaffirmed need for concrete confidence-building measures, plus non-use of force.
- Other areas of agreement included:
 - Recognized the need to build greater confidence in dealings with each other. Frank discussions contributed to this process. Two leaders agreed that real confidence must be built on deeds, not just words.
 - Strengthening people to people contacts, and signing of cultural exchanges agreement.
 - Intensification of other bilateral exchanges.
 - Intensification of dialogue between senior level experts on ways to address regional conflicts, which have undermined prospects for better relations, and agreement to seek ways to enable regional states to solve own problems without outside interference.
 - Joining together to advocate international cooperation to develop magnetic fusion as an inexhaustible energy source for the benefit of mankind.
- THE BOTTOM LINE:
 - Leaders got off to a good start -- that's what was needed.
 - They agreed to meet again, and to regularize meetings at other senior levels.
 - They settled some issues, and at least began the long effort required to tackle those where serious disagreements remain.